

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-24 (cancelled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A utility lighter, comprising:

a casing having a lighter housing, which has an internal cavity and a pusher cavity therein, and a tubular lighter rod extended from said lighter housing, wherein said lighter housing further has a safety slot provided on a sidewall of said lighter housing to communicate said internal cavity with an exterior of said lighter housing;

a fuel storage housing disposed in said internal cavity of said lighter housing for storing liquefied gaseous fuel;

an ignition system which comprises:

a gas emitting nozzle communicated with said fuel storage housing for releasing gaseous fuel;

a gas tube extended from said gas emitting nozzle to a top end portion of said lighter rod to form an ignition tip therein;

a piezoelectric unit supported in said internal cavity for generating piezoelectricity, wherein said piezoelectric unit comprises a movable part and a spark generating tip extended to said ignition tip through said lighter rod for generating sparks when said movable part of said piezoelectric unit is depressed; and

a pusher button which is supported in said pusher cavity in a slidably movable manner to drive said movable part of said piezoelectric unit to be depressed;

a gas releasing unit for control a flow of said liquefied fuel, wherein said gas releasing unit comprises a gas lever having a pivot end engaged with said gas emitting nozzle and an actuating end arranged to be depressed so as to pivotally lift up said gas emitting nozzle for releasing said liquefied fuel, and a gas actuating arm integrally extended from said pusher button towards said actuating end of said gas lever, wherein said gas actuating arm has a driving shoulder provided between a bottom end of said gas actuating arm and a bottom side of said pusher button, such that when said pusher

~~button is depressed, said gas actuating arm is driven to depress said actuating end of said gas lever wherein when said pusher button is depressed, said gas actuating arm slides at said actuating end of said gas lever until said driving shoulder of said gas actuating arm substantially biases against said actuating end of said gas lever to depress said actuating end of said gas lever so as to pivotally lift up said pivot end thereof for releasing said liquefied fuel so as to ignite said liquefied fuel at said ignition tip; and~~

a safety arrangement, which comprises:

a stop post integrally extended from said pusher button at a position parallel to said gas actuating arm;

a locking member, which comprises a switching member slidably mounted on said sidewall of said casing along said safety slot and a stopper which is integrally extended from said switching member into said lighter housing through said safety slot at a position below said pusher button to normally block up ~~and is normally blocked up~~ said pusher button sliding towards said piezoelectric unit, wherein said safety slot is transversely provided on said sidewall of said lighter housing ~~with respect to a sliding movement of said pusher button~~, wherein said switching member is slid on said sidewall of said lighter housing along said safety slot to drive said stopper between a locked position and an unlocked position, wherein at said locked position, said stop post is ~~aligned with~~ positioned right above said stopper such that said pusher button is blocked ~~to be pushed towards depress~~ said piezoelectric unit for ignition, and at said unlocked position, said switch member is slid on said sidewall of said light housing along said safety slot to drive said stopper to move aside from said stop post ~~to an offset position~~ that allows said pusher button to be depressed to depress said movable part of said piezoelectric unit and to depress said actuating end of said gas lever simultaneously for igniting said utility lighter; and

a resilient element supported in said internal cavity of said lighter housing for urging a pushing force to said locking member to normally retain said locking member at said locked position.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The utility lighter, as recited in claim 25, wherein said resilient element comprises a coil spring which is disposed in said internal

cavity and is provided between said locking member and an inner wall of said internal cavity, wherein said resilient element has two end portions biasing against said stopper of said locking member and said inner wall of said internal cavity to urge and retain said stopper to align with said stop post to block up said pusher button from being slid towards said piezoelectric unit.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The utility lighter, as recited in claim 26, wherein said safety arrangement further comprises a holding unit which has a retaining groove formed on said stopper and comprises a coil holder integrally extended from said sidewall of said internal cavity, wherein said respective end portion of said resilient element is fittingly engaged with said retaining groove to lock up said locking member on said sidewall of said casing while a coil body of said resilient element is securely mounted to said coil holder to secure said two end portion of said resilient element to bias against said locking member and said inner wall of said internal cavity respectively.

Claim 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (cancelled).

Claim 30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (currently amended): The utility lighter, as recited in claim ~~28~~ 25, wherein said gas lever has a slanted engaging surface formed on said actuating end and said gas actuating arm has a corresponding slanted driving surface formed at said bottom end to slidably engage with said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever so as to substantially guide said gas actuating arm to slide along said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever until said driving shoulder of said gas actuating arm is engaged with said actuating end of said gas lever.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The utility lighter, as recited in claim ~~29~~ 26, wherein said gas lever has a slanted engaging surface formed on said actuating end and said gas actuating arm has a corresponding slanted driving surface formed at said bottom end to slidably engage with said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever so as to substantially guide said gas actuating arm to slide along said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever until said driving shoulder of said gas actuating arm is engaged with said actuating end of said gas lever.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The utility lighter, as recited in claim 30 27, wherein said gas lever has a slanted engaging surface formed on said actuating end and said gas actuating arm has a corresponding slanted driving surface formed at said bottom end to slidably engage with said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever so as to substantially guide said gas actuating arm to slide along said slanted engaging surface of said gas lever until said driving shoulder of said gas actuating arm is engaged with said actuating end of said gas lever.